

Listing and Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling a signal processing system, comprising the steps of:
receiving from a remote source a plurality of programs and associated program information, said program information including a plurality of program characteristic information;
selecting ~~a first program~~ numerous programs from said plurality of programs in response to a user input;
~~inputting~~ receiving rating information for ~~said first selected program~~ numerous programs from the user, the rating information being respectively related to an impression of the user to said numerous programs;
receiving a suggestion signal from a user; and
~~selecting a second program in response to said input rating information and said associated program information~~ directly comparing a particular characteristic of the program information of a highest rated one of the numerous programs for which rating information is received with a corresponding characteristic of the program information for a plurality of programs from a listing of programs in response to the suggestion signal, and suggesting all programs from the plurality of programs in which the characteristic of the program information substantially matches the particular characteristic of the program information of the highest rated one of the numerous programs.
2. Canceled.
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 wherein said rating information ~~comprising~~ comprises at least a numeric character.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1 wherein said rating information ~~comprising~~ comprises at least an alphabetic character.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of storing said rating information in memory.

6. Canceled.

7. Canceled.

8. Canceled.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for suggesting a program for viewing, comprising:

means for receiving from a remote source a plurality of programs and associated program information;

means for selecting ~~a first program~~ numerous programs from said plurality of programs in response to a user input;

means for ~~inputting~~ receiving rating information ~~locally for said first selected program for said numerous programs from the user, the rating information being respectively related to an impression of the user to said numerous programs;~~ and

means for ~~selecting a second program based on said input rating information and said associated program information~~ directly comparing a particular characteristic of the program information of a highest rated one of the numerous programs for which rating information is received with a corresponding characteristic of the program information for a plurality of programs from a listing of programs in response to the suggestion signal, and suggesting all programs from the plurality of programs in which the characteristic of the program information substantially matches the particular characteristic of the program information of the highest rated one of the numerous programs.

10. Canceled.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[10]]~~ 9 wherein said rating information ~~comprising~~ comprises at least a numeric character.

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12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim ~~[[11]]~~ 9 wherein said rating information ~~comprising~~ comprises at least an ~~alpha~~ alphabetical character.

13. Canceled.